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COOL Testimony

227 years ago our forefathers rebelled against their government, the King of England and the great multi-national company of that time, the British West Indies Company. They paid the price in their blood, so that we as a people would be free from a tyrannical government and from multi-national cartels.

They ordained a government that would bring together the states for mutual protection. Paul DiMare, Luis Rodriguez, and I met with Sen. Lott in Washington about 3 years ago to discuss the dumping of cheap tomatoes into our country by Mexico. I told him that all we neede from them was to protect our borders, militarily and economically, other than that I told him that we did not need a federal govnrment.

Protectionism is a dirty word for some, but not for me. The consumers of this country would prefer to eat American grown food.

The food cartels want us to eat food grown in Argentina, Mexico, Chile, etc., where they can make windfall profits.

This is the Question for you at USDA and our Federal elected officials. Do you protect the international food cartels or do you protect the American consumer and farmer/rancher?

My son is a candidate for state Agriculture Commissioner in Mississippi this year. COOL is one of his issues that he is pushing for full implementation. He would like to see USDA block grant to the states the resources for enforcement by each states agriculture department, using the federal guidelines. Each state can economize by using weights and measures inspectors, who visit retail outlets regularly. This could be done at enormous savings to the federal government.

He also suggests that any cattleman not handling foreign livestock be exempt from any record keeping system, such as a cattle farmer in Smith County Mississippi who raises his own cattle. Those who handle foreign cattle would be the only ones subject to recordkeeping.

And let us remember that this is a government of the people, by the people, and for the people, not of the food cartel, by the food cartel, and for the food cartel. Thank you.